



## Memorandum

To: Provosts and Chief Academic Officers  
From: Paula K. Compton Ph.D., Associate Vice Chancellor  
Date: July 22, 2022  
Subject: Endorsement Survey: Industry Recognized Credential Assurance Guide (ITAG) in Computer Aided Design/Drafting (CAD)

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**Background Information:** The Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) is reaching out to collect responses from all two- and four-year Ohio public institutions of higher education regarding a proposed alignment for the Industry Recognized Credential Assurance Guide (ITAG) in Computer Aided Design/Drafting (CAD).

The Industry Recognized Credential Transfer Assurance Guide (ITAG) is a statewide transfer initiative that guarantees the award of college-level credit to students earning agreed-upon industry recognized credentials. The ITAG initiative was instituted by the Chancellor in February 2021. Students meeting credentialing requirements, regardless of where the learning was achieved, will be eligible to earn credit for specified courses deemed equivalent by faculty and endorsed by Ohio's public institutions of higher education. As some Career-Technical Assurance Guides (CTAGs) use credentials to align with college credit, ITAGs expand the concept of the value of credentials. To reduce variability across Ohio in the transfer credit evaluation and application process, a set of college-level learning outcomes will be established for each ITAG. The set of learning outcomes, which will be aligned with applicable third-party program accreditation, credentialing, and/or other industry standards, will be vetted by faculty and industry as needed.

**Computer Aided Design/Drafting CTAG (CTMET005) and TAG (OET012):** The Computer Aided Design/Drafting Transfer Assurance Guide (TAG) and CTAG share a set of learning outcomes that were endorsed by the state through a panel collaboration and statewide survey. For both initiatives, institutions have submitted documentation demonstrating how their courses meet the CTMET005 and OET012 learning outcomes. Submissions are reviewed and approved by a faculty panel of experts. The TAG guarantees statewide transfer of credit for introductory CAD courses between Ohio's public colleges and universities, while the CTAG awards college credit to students who complete an aligned secondary course at an approved institution and receive a qualifying score on the end-of-course exam.

**Computer Aided Design/Drafting ITAG:** The TAG and CTAG established a set of statewide learning outcomes; the proposed ITAG would use the same learning outcomes and align them to the content of the credentialing exams for the proposed industry-recognized credentials. The ITAG would thus expand access to college credit to students who did not take an introductory CAD course at either a public institution of higher



education in Ohio or in a secondary career-technical program at an Ohio high school or career center. If approved, the ITAG would permit the awarding of 3 credit hours for the introductory CAD course at any Ohio public college or university to students who hold any one of the following certifications:

- Autodesk Certified Associate in CAD for Mechanical Design
- Autodesk Certified Professional in Inventor for Mechanical Design
- Certified SOLIDWORKS Associate in Mechanical Design
- Certified SOLIDWORKS Professional in Mechanical Design

**Computer Aided Design/Drafting TAG vs. CTAG vs. ITAG:** Credit for the CAD ITAG will be awarded in an identical manner to that of the TAG and CTAG, though the initiatives serve different student populations: The CAD TAG facilitates the transfer and application of credit for students moving between Ohio public colleges and universities, while the CTAG awards college credit to students who complete an approved career-technical program at an Ohio secondary institution and receive a passing score on the end-of-course exam. Under the ITAG initiative, any student who holds any of the endorsed CAD credentials, regardless of where the knowledge was obtained for the certification exam, would be eligible to earn credit for an introductory CAD course at an Ohio public institution of higher education. The receiving college or university will award credit for the same CAD course for all students who qualify for either TAG, CTAG, or ITAG credit.

**What We Need from You:** This memo addresses the need for statewide endorsement of the alignment between competencies covered in the proposed CAD credentials and the learning outcomes for the existing OET012 TAG course and the CTMET005 CTAG course. Please forward this memorandum and accompanying attachments to the appropriate faculty. Please have **one person** complete the survey using the link below on or before **Friday, August 12, 2022**.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XCXRKYY>

A copy of the proposed ITAG learning outcomes and alignment is included with this memo for reference. The attached PDF of the survey is for reference only and responses should be submitted using the survey link.

Rob Speckert of Miami University serves as our lead faculty expert and worked with a faculty panel to complete this alignment.

Please contact Nikki Wearly, Director of Career-Technical Education Transfer Initiatives, at [nwearly@highered.ohio.gov](mailto:nwearly@highered.ohio.gov) with any questions.

Thank you for your assistance with this important matter.

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